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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Highlander

Thursday 6 December 2012 | Issue 61



Photo by Mark Arike

Matthew Pearce of the artist blacksmith program and Kati Bujna of the visual arts program stand with their pieces available for purchase at Wrap It Up! See story on page 7.

LHIN wants regional approach to health care

Community providers told to change direction and discuss integration with Kawartha Lakes

By Matthew Desrosiers

The Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) has combined Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes into one area for the purpose of developing integration strategies in health services, effective January 2013.

The decision was made based on Central East LHIN staff recommendations at the organization's board meeting on Nov. 28. They are responsible for funding health services in

their region, as well as improving care and services through the development of health care integration strategies.

Katie Cronin-Wood, communications lead for the Central East LHIN, said the organization is responding to information they received related to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's Health Links initiative and the opportunities presented by the Small Rural Northern Hospital Transformation Fund.

Specific details of the Health Links programs have yet to be released. What is known is that to qualify for Health

Links, a community must have a population of at least 50,000 people. This is the reason for the merging of both communities.

"[There] always was the understanding in Haliburton that while we were coming in and looking at them as unique to get started, they were always going to be brought into the larger Northeast conversation in June of next year [2013]," Cronin-Wood said.

See "Groups" on page 2

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Groups see 'writing on the wall'

Continued from page 1

Instead, the decision was made to move up the timeline to January 2013 and include Haliburton with Kawartha Lakes into one region of three in the North East Cluster. The other two regions are Peterborough and Northumberland County.

The Haliburton County/City of Kawartha Lakes portion of the strategy involves an integration process that includes Ross Memorial Hospital, Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), Community Care Haliburton, SIRCH and Community Care Kawartha Lakes and Community Health Centre (CHC).

Haliburton Highlands Health Services and community partners, including SIRCH, Community Care Haliburton County, the Family Health Team, and the Haliburton branch of the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) have been working on a re-alignment of health services in the county since early 2012. The process was driven by the Central East LHIN, however this recent announcement signals a change of direction for the organization as strategies will need to be implemented on a regional level now as opposed to locally.

Jeanne Anthon, president of Community Care Haliburton County, said it was a shock to her to find out their current process was coming to a halt and instead they would be looking to integrate with the City of Kawartha Lakes.

"If this is a must-do, then we've got to look at how to make this a positive kind of move," she said.

Anthon said the prospect of integrating with Community Care Kawartha Lakes has raised some red flags.

"We wonder what would happen to our volunteers, our fundraising, the delivery of all our services," she said. "Surely they wouldn't want to operate all those factors out of Lindsay."

The concern is, if the services were run out of Lindsay, how would the community feel about fundraising for an organization that is no longer based locally within the county.

Anthon said it just isn't clear right now what exactly these changes will mean.

"It could be just that the money has to flow through Kawartha Lakes but they can't tell us what to do with it."

However, Anthon said there is the concept of one governance, which means one board and one administration. "If that's what they're talking about, then we see some writing on the wall."

While the Central East LHIN does not have the authority to force integration of governance or entities, Anthon said the organization is able to apply pressure to health care providers because they control funding.

"We can't put our blinders on and pretend we can manage without the LHINs," she said. "We can't. You have to work with your boss."

Cronin-Wood said there are various levels of integration. According to a report presented to the Central East LHIN board last week, the scale of possibilities for integration include linkage-focused integration (collaboration and cooperation), network-focused integration (coordination, delegation, system governance model) and full integration (transfer of responsibility and merger/consolidation).

"What we've said in the past is that partnerships, although valuable, don't always get you the changes you need," she said. "There are no pre-determined outcomes. [It is] the decision of the [boards] whether they would want to participate in any model."

The Central East LHIN does have accountability agreements in place with all the service providers and flows funding to them accordingly. Cronin-Wood said it is possible that not participating in the integration process could

jeopardize access to funds.

"This is why we go through this process," she said. "This is why we take the time to sit down and have conversations and tap into the local knowledge. [We] look for ways [to improve health care] and create even more access and focus even more on what are the needs of that community."

While there is some concern that the work done to date on integration within the county was a waste, Cronin-Wood said that is not true.

"There's been a lot of work done in Haliburton into understanding people's concerns related to access to health care," she said. "All that excellent work that's been done in Haliburton will be moved to this table."

"Their partners in the City of Kawartha Lakes now need to catch up to where they are."

Foster Loucks, interim HHHS CEO, said integration at the hospitals starts in the back office.

"Often there's room to achieve some greater expertise by sharing those resources and certain efficiencies can be achieved," he said.

For example, payroll could be handled in one location for the region. However, these types of integrations don't save significant amounts of money, he said.

"I think where the gains need to be made is in terms of the improvements that can be made from a patient's point of view," Loucks said. "It's got more to do with access to the right service at the right time and in the right place."

The process HHHS has been involved in up until now with its community partners has been towards that end, he said. But to continue improving services for patients and access to quality care, we need to develop strong relationships with our neighbour health care providers.

"We have to have the best possible connections to a bigger hospital, a bigger

player, and to the extent that we fall short of that, or the system falls short of that, our patients may be less than well-served," he said.

That doesn't mean full integration of the hospital with Ross Memorial, for example, but rather a better, more coordinated system between the two organizations.

"We need to be thinking of ourselves not so much as standalone," he said. "If we're talking about acute care, it can't be done only in Haliburton because we don't have a lot of the basic services that a larger hospital provides."

Loucks did acknowledge the concern that this process may lead to a discussion about whether or not we have too many agencies for our population of 11,600 (per the Central East LHIN report).

"I don't think we're at risk of losing any of the services that we have, but how those services are coordinated and how they're organized [may change]."

During strategic planning discussions, it will be the responsibility of local governors to protect the interests of Haliburton County, he said.

"The governors, the boards, will have an important role to ensure [Haliburton is not overlooked]," said Loucks.

He said he is not concerned about services being lost or jobs being lost in Haliburton, as long as the governance of our organizations stay local.

"Quite frankly, I think it is a good thing, on the provision that we maintain a governance structure that lives and breathes in Haliburton, but cooperates and works with governance in the rest of the region."

As more information becomes available on Health Links and further impacts this may have on Haliburton health services, the Highlander will continue to report online at www.haliburtonhighlander.ca.

We can't put our blinders on and pretend we can manage without the LHINs.

Jeanne Anthon

Community Care Haliburton
President

Highlander news



By Ashley Campbell

Lions and Rotarians match 4Cs donation

The 4Cs received a \$615.00 donation thanks to the generosity of Haliburton County on Nov. 29. Public donations received at the Haliburton Santa Claus parade totalled \$205.00, which was then matched by the Haliburton Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Haliburton. From left: Murray Trip, 4Cs director, Don Wood, 4Cs chairman, Jim Frost, coordinator of the Santa Claus parade, Tina Hadley, Lions Club, Richard van Nood, Rotary treasurer and Andrew Hodgson, Rotary president.

Legions exempted from county taxes

By Lisa Harrison

Royal Canadian Legion branches across Haliburton County have once again been exempted from county taxes for 10 years with approval of the necessary bylaw at the Nov. 28 council meeting.

The Legion has branches in Cardiff, Haliburton, Minden and Wilberforce.

According to a staff report, the Municipal Act authorizes municipalities to pass bylaws exempting from taxation any property used

and occupied as a memorial home, clubhouse or athletic grounds by persons who served in the armed forces of His or Her Majesty in any war.

The maximum bylaw duration allowed is 10 years. The previous county bylaw expires this year.

Staff estimated the cost to the county levy next year will be between \$2,000 and \$2,500 depending upon the upcoming assessment notice and 2013 tax rates.

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Editorial opinion

Keeping home rule

It's tough being the smallest kid on the playground.

You know you have to look out for yourself, because no one else understands the challenges you face every day. You're not as fast as the other kids, because for every one of their strides, you have to take two. Everything is more difficult for you, and it's hard to get respect.

But you don't let it keep you down. Instead, you find ways to excel despite your small stature. You embrace your uniqueness and adapt to thrive in a potentially hostile, or at least indifferent, environment.

Then, inevitably, someone insists you play with the bigger kids, even though you could get clobbered. They set out rules you have to live by, guidelines to follow that will make you like everyone else, except you're not. But what can you do? They're in control.

Haliburton County is the little guy on the health care playground.

While other regions, more populated areas, have access to best-in-class specialists and facilities, we struggle to get that same level of care. We just don't have the size or demand to warrant those things. So instead, we came up with ways to address those challenges.

The result is a system wherein community partners fill gaps in service and help address needs throughout the county. If people can't drive to their appointments, Community Care Haliburton gets them there. If someone is facing a severe or terminal illness, SIRCH is there to fill the need for hospice and palliative care.

Our hospitals, while not boasting surgical teams or medical specialists, offer true patient care. Care you would expect from fellow Highlanders.

But now, it's possible things are about to change.

The Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) has decided that Haliburton County will join with the City of Kawartha Lakes to strategize on how to improve health care in the region.

What the LHIN is designed to do is find ways to maximize health services for our region. They want to get the most bang for their buck. They call this integration.

Essentially, that means filling the gaps in the health care system by integrating community partners and hospitals, and the services they provide, into one seamless experience.

Integration options range from improving communications between organizations to full-on mergers. It just depends on what governing bodies feel is the best way to meet their goals.

Haliburton providers have been working on this, under the LHIN's direction, since early this year.

We've been placed in a group called the North East Cluster, which is made up of Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Northumberland County. For those keeping score, Peterborough has 133,000 people,

Northumberland has 75,000, Kawartha Lakes has 70,000 and, according to the LHIN's report, we have 11,635 (not the 17,000 the 2011 census counted).

Haliburton County makes up four per cent of our cluster's total population. We would make up approximately 14.6 per cent of the population in a partnership with the Kawarthas.

When our local health care providers sit down at the table to discuss strategies for improving health care in a combined Haliburton-Kawartha area, or in the North East Cluster, will they have an equal say?

Those who are optimistic say yes. They say the LHIN is transparent and is working towards the improvement of health care for everyone. They don't want to take away services from Haliburton, but want to improve our experience.

It is true that we need to partner with other health care providers outside of the county for things like access to surgical teams and specialists. To deny that is to be blind to our situation. But that doesn't mean those bigger hospitals or community organizations should decide or influence how we govern the health care services we do have in the county.

Logic says if you want the most for your money, the most efficient use of health care dollars, then you centre services where they can be accessed by the those who need them most. You flow money to those areas and develop programs there, because that's where the demand is.

Our community is full of high-users, people who are frequently in need of health services. This is because of poverty and lack of healthy food options, as well as our aging population. But despite our high percentage of high-users relative to other regions of the province, the county's healthcare needs are a drop in the bucket when you look at the 'big picture'.

The only way health services will be protected in the county is if local boards and organizational leaders, the ones who run our hospitals and community health providers, are willing and able to stand up from the table and walk away if the deal is bad for the Highlands.

But the LHIN likely won't tolerate those who don't play ball. They can't force anyone back to the table directly, but they can cut off the cash flow. It's risky for these organizations to bite the hand that feeds, because they depend on that money to provide their services to begin with.

LHIN officials and healthcare leaders can say all the right things: that Haliburton County won't be neglected, that we'll have a loud voice at the table and our unique needs will be considered along with everyone else's.

But in the real world, just as on the playground, it's hard for the little guy to be heard. Sometimes he just gets run over.



By Matthew Desrosiers

Photo of the week



Photo by John Cavera

The mushing dogs are stretching their legs at the Haliburton Forest.

Stepping up to the plate

Highlanders are a generous bunch. When it comes to food security, we fill trucks and OPP cruisers, buy grocery bags and donate money, all for local food banks.

It's not enough.

The Minden food bank alone had 23 new families sign up since September. That's 23 more households who don't know where their next meal is coming from. This year alone, the Minden operation has handed out over 5,000 bags of food.

People are still going hungry, at an accelerating pace, despite the fact that there is more wealth in Canada than ever before. According to departing Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney, \$500 billion dollars of it sits, unused, untaxed, in corporate bank accounts. The rationale for lower corporate taxes was that companies would invest, creating jobs and widening prosperity. We're still waiting for that to happen.

Closer to home, a billion dollars was wasted on eHealth; another two hundred million on cancelled power plants, and a billion on a the G20 summit, making Ornge CEO Chris Mazza's \$1.5 million salary look like pocket change.

All that cash would buy a lot of groceries, or create a few jobs with which people could buy groceries.

It didn't.

So this week, the 4Cs delivered a wish list to Haliburton Foodland on behalf of local food banks, hoping to fill in some of the gaps in donations. People have been giving a lot

of canned food and non-perishable food, but not necessarily the right kind. The food banks need cereal (hot and cold, low-sugar), rice, pasta, oatmeal, whole grain crackers and bread; fruit juice and canned fruit, apple sauce, instant mashed potatoes, canned vegetables and soups; canned meat and fish, beans, nuts, peanut butter, milk and milk substitutes.

They also need fresh fruit and vegetables, which are hard to donate because they don't keep very well.

The food banks are therefore asking for cash donations, which allow them to buy what's needed, when it's needed. Cash allows the food banks to offer greater variety and to be more responsive to the needs of their clients, many of whom are children.

Food can be dropped off at the 4Cs, or in Haliburton at Foodland or Todd's Independent. To donate cash, call 705-457-3331. Most importantly, food banks ask that we think of them after the Christmas season too; the need for help is unfortunately year-round.

While it's easy to get angry or depressed at the perpetual failure of our society to solve problems of food security, it's deeply heartening to live in a community that always steps up to the plate. This year will no doubt prove that once again.



By Bram Lebo

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Letters to the editor

Bill 115 violates the constitutional rights of education workers

Dear editor,

As an educational support worker I am compelled to voice my concern for our education system in Ontario. Presently there is a crisis as elementary and secondary school teachers ramp up their job actions, but that crisis was not created by those teachers or their unions. The blame for this situation needs to be placed squarely on the shoulders of the Liberal Government (albeit, in absentia) and its Bill 115.

Bill 115 violates the constitutional rights of all workers in education. This includes teachers, secretaries, educational assistants, custodians, maintenance staff and other support staff (it is the government's intent to widen its scope to other sectors as well). The government, supported to a great extent by the media, has attempted to keep the focus on the teachers. Why? Possibly they hoped to conceal the fact that Bill 115 is also directed at the lower-paid employees in the education system. These are the people who registered your children for kindergarten and who help your children with special needs.

The government and the media also like to focus on "wage freeze" and "right to strike" as being the issues, but that is not why educational employees are upset.

Bill 115 is a clear infringement of our constitutional right to free collective bargaining, a right which is protected under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Canadian Civil Liberties Association has referred to the bill as the "Putting Democracy Last Act" rather

than use the name offered by the McGuinty government ("Putting Students First Act"). This bill does not put students first; it puts the Minister of Education first, with unprecedented power to, as Bram Lebo described in his editorial last week, "unilaterally change contract terms as the government sees fit."

Minister Broten is not interested in negotiations. She came to the table months ago with a "here's the deal and if you don't like it, it will be forced upon you" game plan. Does that sound like democracy? She and her government have carried out their plan and now claim to be "disappointed" in the teachers for allowing it to affect the students.

I can tell you first hand that the teachers (and support staff) do not want it to affect the students and if there was another way they would have taken it. The Liberal government created this crisis which is affecting students. How could such an undemocratic and unlawful legislation not affect the students? What are we teaching our students if we allow this injustice to occur unchallenged? This is Canada. No Canadian should be denied his/her constitutional rights and no ELECTED politician should be placed above the law.

There was no crisis in the education sector until the Liberal Government created it. I have to wonder if possibly the government wanted to direct public attention away from the other scandals for which it is responsible (eHealth, Ornge and the power plants to name a few). Turning the general public against the teachers might also

help to keep attention directed away from a much bigger crisis – our provincial government is missing. That is McGuinty's fault as well!

Yes, there is definitely a crisis but it doesn't have to be this way. Bill 115 needs to be repealed to allow the school boards and their employees to "bargain in good faith" in a timely manner without the government's interference. Waiting for the issue to come before the courts could take years and by then the politicians involved will be long gone, enjoying the perks of their retirement (which, by the way, never seem to be affected by government cutbacks).

Bill 115 can be repealed while the legislature is prorogued. This IS the time to fight. This IS the time to make our children proud by standing up for our rights. This IS NOT the time for complacency. We need to let our MPPs, Minister Broten, Premier McGuinty, and even the lieutenant-governor, David Onley, know that Bill 115 is not acceptable. This is a democratic country and we expect our government to be on the job and to be respectful of our rights as Canadian citizens. That's why we elected them in the first place.

Leanne Kennedy
Educational Assistant, HHSS
Wilberforce

Ed note: According to a constitutional law professor The Highlander contacted at the University of Toronto, a law cannot be repealed without recalling the legislature.

Trophy Wall advocates a barbaric sport

Dear editor,

Hunting may be a way of life but it in no way makes it acceptable or morally right.

Look at the slaughter of dolphins and whales. Is that acceptable because it has been done for years? There is no difference to me. They all have feelings and emotions. The fact is the world is changing and killing for fun is not necessary or acceptable. Even if it's hunting for food, which is still wrong to me, why be proud of murdering and pose smiling with your kill?

So proud to kill a defenseless creature with a weapon? Not to mention the orphaned fawns from this, leading to continued suffering and possibly the deaths of even more

animals.

I could go on forever but the reality is hunters do not care about other opinions and believe they are entitled to this. They give whatever lame excuses they can to make this slaughter seem right.

I am almost ashamed to be a part of a community that is so proud of this "sport". Being woken up to gun shots in the distance makes me cringe, as I imagine what was just killed and if it left behind any offspring to fend for itself.

I am only here to enjoy this beauty.

A. M.
Haliburton County

The Outsider — Festive horror stories

The day was fast turning ugly and I don't mean the weather. People were getting bored and restless and worst still the room was filled with some of the most unpredictable, most likely-to-explode-at-any-minute type characters imaginable. And then it happened. One of these ticking time bombs did indeed go off.

Baaaaawaaaaawaaa, sobsobsob, baaaaawaaaa... And that set the others going too. The room erupted into a cacophony of screaming toddlers. Their reason for making this intolerable din? Santa Clause was AWOL: lost in the snow, broken down sleigh, sleeping off a hangover, no one knew. All we did know was that he wasn't where he was meant to be.

What had seemed like an angelic idea – take Little Z to have his picture taken with Santa – had turned into a hellish experience. Too many bored, frustrated, angry, snivelling, shouting, crying kids in one room and no jolly fat man with a beard (well, no fat men with beards who were dressed in red suits, anyway). Santa Claus had failed to turn up to the Rails End Gallery for his annual photo op with the kiddies.

So this was the start of Christmas. Ho Ho blinkin' Ho!

By way of light relief I decided to take my lovely wife and Little Z to the Festival of Trees in Minden. Believing it to be an outdoor affair we bundled the little fellow up arctic style and off we went. On arriving, we found out almost all the

trees were inside. An hour later, after we had stripped Little Z of many many layers, we toured the trees, many of which were perfectly pretty. However, just as I was getting into the Christmas spirit, I spied the TD Bank tree, a fake fir festooned with money. The trouble was the bank had opted to use non-legal tender. Was this a charming quirk aimed to take us back to yesteryear or a cynical ploy to detract would-be thieves? Hmm, I ruminated gloomily on my instant distrust of this Christmas tree and its financial sector decorators. Was I being a grouch or had I hit upon the miserly festive spirit of the banking world? Bah Humbug!

The next day I awoke determined to get into the Christmas spirit proper. I opened the liquor cabinet and poured a large slug of brandy onto my cornflakes. Only kidding, it was Baileys.

Our plans on this fine day included a trip to the high school to watch a rendition of Peter Pan put on by children's theatre, Razzmatazz. A pantomime, perfect festive fodder, I thought.

It would have been but for one thing. No one had told me that in these performances audience members were strong-armed into getting up on stage and 'acting' too. Had I known this I would have steered well clear of the school as I can think of nothing more petrifying than performing to a crowd. However, I was happily ensconced in my seat when, yes,

you've guessed it, the grinning on-stage narrator had caught my eye and beckoned me into the fray.

Suddenly, I was Captain Hook. A pirate with sweating palms, knocking knees and an overwhelming compulsion to run out of the theatre and not stop until he got back to the safety of his previous anonymous city life! I did my best not to break down in frightened tears and pulled off a very amateurish performance of Hook – a part that included this perspiring pirate disco dancing in one scene! At the end of the play I scurried out of the hall, hoping to forget the whole sorry episode. But, by the time I got home my discombobulated dancing pirate had been uploaded to the World Wide Web and was being viewed by friends as far-a-field as London and Australia!

And so ended a weekend that was meant to signal the start of Christmas for me. Instead, I am trying to forget it (more booze on breakfast required). I should mention though that seconds away from what could have been a dirty diaper disaster Santa turned up at the Gallery and everyone got their photo taken. The grim expressions displayed by both parties in Little Z's photo probably sums up the feelings on all sides following the wait, though!



By Will Jones

Tell us your opinion
Send your letters to the editor to
matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Highlander opinions

Eye on the street: How do you feel about the teachers going on strike?



Angela Howard

Norland

I feel that there should always be room for negotiation. I have already received my money back for a school trip that was planned and it is not fair as my boys were looking forward to it. It would be nice if both sides came to an agreement.

Barb Phillips

Minden

Not Good! The school groups come to where I work at Camp Wanakita. It will affect all of us as it is a cycle. If the dollars do not come to Wanakita, then it will not trickle down to everybody.



Chris Archer

Camarvon

I am with the teachers because they feel they have had their democratic rights taken away from them with Bill 115. Unfortunately it is creating a lot of tension.



Olga Krinkowski

Irondale

It is their right. The last I heard it is still a democracy here in Canada.

Bev Elias

Minden

I'm not too fond of it. I think that the kids are getting a short deal. It is all about the children and sometimes we have to sacrifice and remember that.



County auctions minivan to service clubs and non-profits

By Lisa Harrison

Service and non-profit organizations are being invited to bid on a 2007 Chevrolet Uplander LS minivan used by the county for administration purposes.

At the Nov. 28 council meeting, council approved the finance and correspondence committee's recommendation to purchase a new administration vehicle and make the outgoing vehicle available to these groups.

Treasurer Laura Janke says the gold-coloured 3.9L, V6 minivan seats seven and features power windows/locks and cruise control. The current mileage is 171,000 km. The vehicle has been used by the tourism department to transport the tourism booth to shows, by the IT department to service computers throughout the county, by the library to do book exchanges, and for travel outside the county.

"We have never tried this before – we just thought it was a low trade-in, and because currently the Lions Club is using

it once a month for the Good Food box and I think they are looking for a van," says Janke. "Councillors did not want to give it to one club over another, though."

"We asked Curry Motors what it might be worth on trade to get an idea and that is where the \$1,500 came from. We wanted the clubs to know this so they bid accordingly."

John Teljeur of JT's Food Crusade, organizer of last month's Fill the Truck Food Drive, says the van could definitely be used for carting food throughout the year.

"Right now it's all being done by volunteers and you can imagine trying to put in 10 cases of yogurt, or I think this summer we had 30 cases of tomatoes that came in," says Teljeur.

Organizers are working on a number of different solutions, but a vehicle or trailer or boat would be appreciated, he says. However, he hopes the county will consider donating the minivan.

"If they want to help us help our people in this community to catch a break so they get a chance to kind of regroup and move forward, this is one of the best ways to do it," says Teljeur.

"I think it's all within our best interests that they help us help other people, especially if it's not going to cost them really anything. Otherwise we'll be knocking on the door for fundraising, so to save that from happening, give us a truck and we won't bother you again," he adds with a chuckle.

Janke says council believes the van is worth more than the trade-in value and will consider the difference to be the county's contribution to the winning bidder.

Regularly maintained and cleaned, the vehicle is being sold on an as-is, where-is basis and will be available for pick-up in mid-January 2013.

Interested groups are asked to contact Andrea Fitzell at the county office at 705-286-1333.

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Request for county transit support denied

By Lisa Harrison

A request for support of a public transit initiative in the county was denied by council at its Nov. 28 meeting.

The request was submitted by Darren Parberry, who has visited lower tiers in the past few months with a similar request for written support of his Metis Transit initiative. His plan is to establish a bus route from Peterborough through Haliburton to Minden, financed in part by local advertisers at a significant discount.

Parberry's request to the county included a copy of a letter he received from Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Barry Devolin supporting the plan.

"I asked him [Parberry] if he had made application for a public vehicle operating licence to the Ministry [of Transportation] and he hasn't," said Warden Murray Fearney. "It looks like it's motherhood and it's harmless

to say we support it in principal, but it sends a message to the community and the advertisers that we're supporting it when we don't have the facts."

Councillors Liz Danielsen and Carol Moffatt expressed reservations about the plan while acknowledging their township, Algonquin Highlands, approved a similar letter.

"I think it is reasonable to indicate support for the concept," said Councillor Barb Reid. "While I don't know this for sure, I think the letters of support are probably linked to funding for them to do the community survey. Without the survey they can't really build a business case."

"We went all through this, there was a very active transportation committee set up," said Fearney. "The bus company tried this run, this very run that he's talking about. They ran it three times and they never had one passenger even though there was public input."

Read the paper online from anywhere
www.haliburtonhighlander.ca

Highlander arts

Fleming students ready to Wrap It Up

By Mark Arke

With Christmas around the corner, why not check out what students at the Haliburton School of the Arts have to offer?

On Dec. 15 the work of approximately 50 students will be featured at the bi-annual, end-of-semester show and sale titled "Wrap It Up!" The event will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will take place at the Haliburton campus.

"If they're straight out of high school it may be their first non-high school show," said Terri Frew, event organizer and studio technician at the college. "We have some returning students who are repeat offenders at the show. You get a broad range of artists who participate."

Participation in the event is mandatory for certificate program students but is optional for those in the Visual and Creative Arts Diploma (VCAD) program.

As event organizer, Frew is in charge of advertising, table assignment and addressing students' needs. The most frequently asked

question Frew gets is from students who are unsure of how to go about pricing their art.

"I would say the number one question I get asked is, 'what do I price my work at?' It's such a hard question to answer. Any artist could tell you that. There are a few things that go into it. I can make a few suggestions, but in the end it's really the artist's choice."

Frew tells students to consider how much time they spent on the piece, the cost of the materials and their own thoughts of the final product. She also recommends they consider multiple price points.

A variety of media will be showcased at the event, including: painting, drawing, blacksmithing, fibre arts, sculpture, photography and mixed media. According to Frew, one student is planning on doing a performance piece.




Free gift-wrapping will be provided courtesy of the Friends of Fleming committee, and refreshments and snacks will be available.

The event is free to attend but those looking to make a purchase must bring cash.


Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are the top five fiction and non-fiction titles as requested this week at the Haliburton County Public Library.

HCPL's TOP FIVE FICTION

1. *Up and Down* by Terry Fallis 
2. *Trust Your Eyes* by Linwood Barclay 
3. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce
4. *Winter of the World* by Ken Follett
5. *The Beautiful Mystery* by Louise Penny 

HCPL's TOP FIVE NON-FICTION

1. *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Weight, and Find Your Path Back to Health* by William Davis
2. *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed
3. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Won't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain
4. *Total Recall: My Unbelievably True Life Story* by Arnold Schwarzenegger
5. *The Wealthy Barber Returns* by David Chilton 

Fans of Ken Follett must be eager to get their hands on his latest release, *Winter of the World*. This is the second book in Follett's *The Century Trilogy* and it picks up right where *Fall of Giants* left off.

It follows five interrelated families—American, German, Russian, English, Welsh—as they enter a time of enormous social, political, and economic turmoil, beginning with the rise of the Third Reich, through the Spanish Civil War and the great dramas of World War II, up to the explosions of the American and Soviet atomic bombs.

This is the ideal series for fans of historical epics – and epics these are indeed! At over 900 pages, it might take a while for you to conquer *Winter of the World*. The good news is that you'll have lots of time – the third and final book in the trilogy, tentatively titled *Edge of Eternity*, is not expected to be published until 2014. All of Follett's books can be found at the Haliburton County Public Library.

Library News: If you are interested in joining a book club but don't want to be bogged down by set times and locations, you'll be glad to hear that the library now has 24/7 online book club. Visit our www.haliburtonlibrary.ca for information on how to join.



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our Town

Thornton Wilder's classic play about life in a small town one hundred years ago, just before the First World War. This gentle reminiscence reveals that in fact those times are still part of our lives, if we will only look around us. Funny and touching at the same time, this play has become a classic of the North American stage since it was first performed in 1938. With its large cast and interwoven story, patrons are sure to recognize a character or two on the stage. **Opens July 15 & runs July 16-19 & July 24-26**



Neil Simon's rollicking comedy is a perennial favourite. Two retired Vaudevillians who haven't spoken to each other since their last show, 12 years ago, must get past bruised egos and unresolved grievances if they are to appear together in a television special about their careers. Sharp, witty and full of humour. **Opens Monday July 29 with performances July 30 to August 2 & August 6 to 9.**

Bohemians in Brooklyn

A juicy cabaret by Tom Allen based on a group of artists (including WH. Auden, Benjamin Britten, Gypsy Rose Lee and others) who lived in February House in Brooklyn in the early 1940s. The story is told in dialogue, readings and music. Featured performers include Tom Allen, Lori Gemmel, Bryce Kulak and Patricia O'Callaghan. **Sunday, July 21 at 2:30 p.m. with performances July 22 & 23 at 8 p.m.**



A devastating fire at the Orange Hall in Larkspur leaves it a smouldering ruin. Walt Wingfield leads the charge to get it rebuilt, but lighting a fire under his fellow committee members proves a daunting task. Is it courage they lack, or is the devil in the details? Dan Needles' clever script and the superb interpretation by actor Rod Beattie brings this gentle comedy to life on the Highlands Summer Festival stage for three performances. **Opens Sunday, July 7 at 8 p.m. with two other performances on July 8 & 9.**



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Highlander people

Fearrey finishing twelfth term as warden

By Mark Arike

Murray Fearrey will soon only have one political title attached to his name.

"I would say that 99 per cent of the people I've worked with have been dedicated, sincere and have been very supportive when I was in the warden's position," said Fearrey, who attended his last county council meeting as county warden on Nov. 28.

Members of county council elected Fearrey to his most recent term in December of 2011. He has been in the warden's position 12 times, with his first term dating back to 1974.

"It was the county's centennial year," said Fearrey of his first year. "I can't forget that."

That term taught him a few important things.

"It's all about the teamwork and people pulling in the same direction," he said. "You have lots of dialogue, but at the end of the day there's a consensus."

Fearrey has served one-year, two-year and three-year terms as warden. He admits that the position has come with its fair share of ups and downs.

"Most times, one year is enough for them [the warden]. It's a time-consuming thing and when you're reeve of your township, you've got responsibilities there as well."

One of the more controversial topics over his term has been the Haliburton County Rail Trail.

"We've made a decision on the Rail Trail. Whether people like it or they don't, we had to make some decision. Things are not etched in cement forever. There's always a chance to review things."

Fearrey said he has witnessed changes over the years, including those made in the county's financial department. Those changes have resulted in added pressures in the decision-making process.

"Managing the affairs of the financials is a bigger challenge than it was in the past. We're not getting [provincial or federal] grants. When I first went on county council we were getting road grants of nearly 100 per cent. Now we don't get any."

The amalgamation of nine townships in 2001 also had

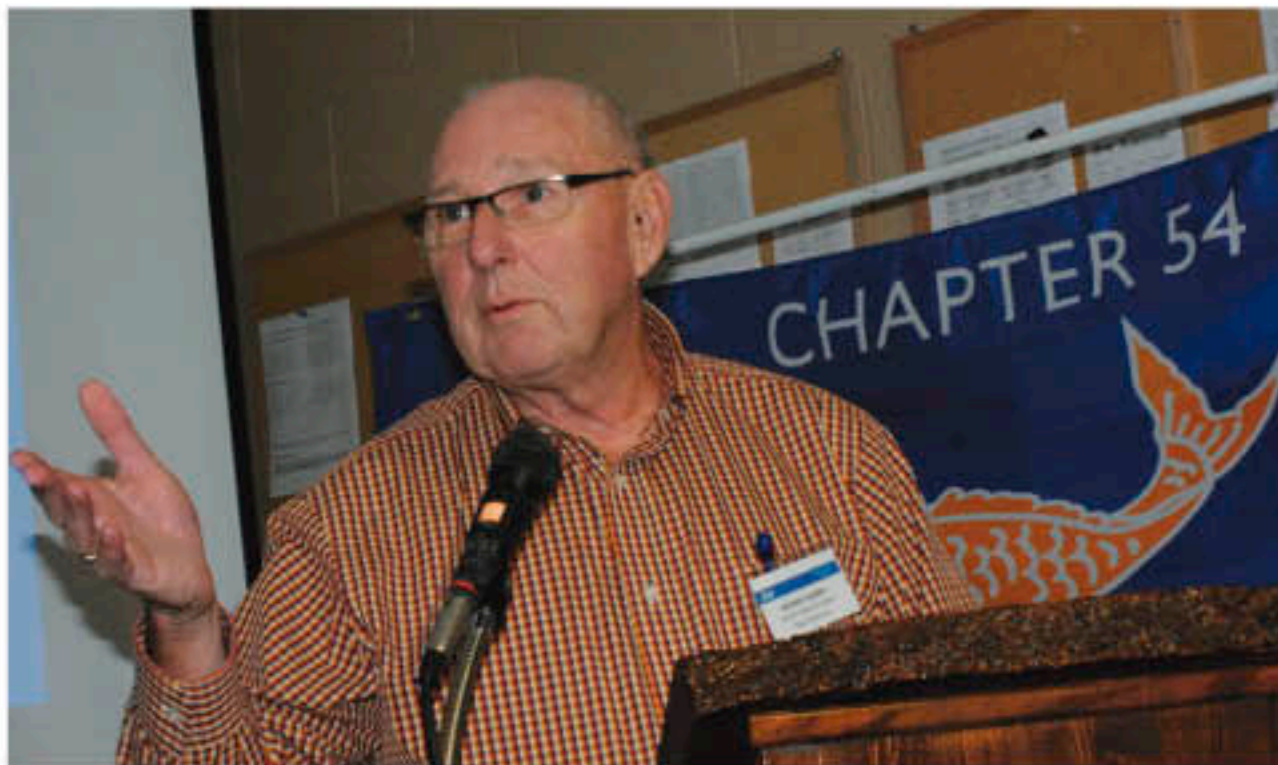


Photo by Mark Arike

Murray Fearrey speaks at one of his last functions as county Warden on Dec. 5.

an impact on how decisions are made.

"At one time we had 19 county councillors for the first year I was there. Now we're at eight. And we didn't have EMS services. We didn't have many of the things that we have today and are responsible for."

Nowadays, county councillors are faced with some tough decisions, he said.

"We have to figure out what's essential and what can we afford, because there's lots of poverty in the county as well. How much do we do and still attain a reasonable level of service?"

When asked if he considers himself the face of the county, Fearrey chuckled.

"I'm more humble than that. I'm just grateful that people have had the confidence in me to do it."

Fearrey has also been on council for the municipality of Dysart et al for the past 38 years. He has been reeve for 33 of those years.

The next warden will be elected at the Dec. 11 county council meeting. Fearrey said he is glad that others have come forward and expressed an interest in filling the position.

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Senior highlanders

CARP says thank you to volunteers

By Mark Arike

They give of their time, energy and knowledge without expecting much in return. To them, knowing they have helped others in their community makes it all worthwhile.

Many of these individuals came together for the first Volunteer Recognition Day on Dec. 5 at the Haliburton Curling Club. More than 50 representatives from a variety of local organizations attended the event, which was hosted by the Haliburton Highlands CARP Chapter 54.

"I think this is a pretty good indication that Haliburton is volunteer-driven," said Bob Stinson, chair of the chapter. "When we started out we were just going to invite the fire [department] volunteers here, but then we found out most of them would be working during the day and couldn't come. So we decided to expand it and invite you all."

Stinson said he hoped this would be the start of an annual event.

"It's a great thing to be able to thank all you volunteers for everything you do," he said.

Emcee of the event Mike Jaycock explained how volunteering has been an important part

of his life.

"I've been volunteering for over 50 years now," said Jaycock, who is a radio personality on Canoe FM and manager of the Haliburton Creative Business Incubator. "I'll bet that many of you have exciting histories as well."

Jaycock started out volunteering with the YMCA when he began his career in radio.

"I was part of a team of young adults who ran a program for inner city youth," he explained. "I've got to tell you, that's when I learned my first lesson: I learned to be thankful for the upbringing that my family gave me."

When Jaycock entered the field of marketing and advertising, he was introduced to a "very powerful notion." The founder of the company he worked for was a firm believer in giving back for the benefit of others.

"He passionately believed that employees of the company had a responsibility to share their skills with the community. The company allowed us to use company time."

As a result, Jaycock went on to volunteer



Photo by Mark Arike

Haliburton Highlands residents gather to recognize the efforts of community volunteers.

with the United Way, a literacy council and several other groups.

"What kept me going were the real stories of people being helped," he said.

Volunteers in attendance were able to briefly share their experiences, promote their

organization and encourage others to get involved. MPP Laurie Scott and Dysart reeve and county warden Murray Fearney were in attendance to thank all volunteers for their ongoing efforts.

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Highlander outdoors

HHOA to stand on its own feet by 2014

By Lisa Harrison

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association (HHOA) plans to be self-sustaining by 2014, despite Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) funding cuts of more than 80 per cent since 2009.

HHOA vice president John Teljeur appeared at the Nov. 28 county council meeting to request continued county funding for 2013, but presented the HHOA's past achievements and future plans to require no outside support by the end of that year.

Teljeur said on its own, and working with the MNR and the Ministry of the Environment as well as community partners including lake associations, the HHOA has achieved a great deal in the county.

The HHOA has stocked county lakes with more than 500,000 fish through its Gelert Road fish hatchery facility; 40,000 this year alone. It formed a Bass Club and will hold six bass tournaments around the county this year.

"There are a lot of people who come up here to do this, a lot of businesses depend on this, and this is the reason why we're able to do it, is because we have this resource in our backyard," said Teljeur.

HHOA has also offered a wide variety of public events, established educational tours at the facility and supported wetland preservation, wildlife habitat restoration and other conservation initiatives.

The group launched a trails and facilities development plan this past spring with the Haliburton County Development Corporation, led by Yours Outdoors and Out to Learn, to look at potential development for the facility.

Teljeur said HHOA is already in the process of building a new picnic shelter so the public can hold events on-site rain or shine, and is reaching out to local service groups such as SIRCH and Community Care to offer free facility space.

As a result of HHOA activities and outreach, in 2012 tours increased by 19 per cent, membership rose by three per cent, revenues were up six per cent and profitability increased by 27 per cent.

"And one of the important things I think most people want to see is we were able to close the gap between the amount of money we were paying out versus the amount of money we were taking in to the point that in this past season we broke even in the association."

Future plans for the HHOA include even more outreach to youth as "the future stakeholders and caretakers of our natural

resources" and positioning itself as a provincial leader in eco-tourism.

"We're going to be very active, and have been very active, in supporting tourism, not just about having things for people to do when they're here but also going out there to attract people to our area to benefit our guests and our accommodators."

HHOA set up a new sponsorship program in 2012, and "people within this community have been very good to us," said Teljeur. "These groups offer us different levels of support – financial support and services as well as volunteer. In this community obviously there are a lot of organizations out there including ourselves who look at these people for support."

So HHOA wants to attract money from outside the community as well.

"We're talking about the SAIL and the Bass Pro Shops, those lure companies... the Sportsmen's Show. These are organizations that support facilities like ours."

HHOA is now working on a fundraising festival with partner

Fish'n Canada, which Teljeur called the largest outdoor TV show in Canada and one of the largest in North America.

He told council that with the launch of the new HHOA website, 43 per cent of the people HHOA reaches in its new social media program are outside the county.

County funding for the HHOA was \$15,000 in 2012. Teljeur asked council not to pull back in 2013.

"We have a number of things going on that need some time to work. We do plan to hold to our word of being sustainable – if not by 2014, even earlier – and we would like your support on doing that."

Council deferred the request to 2013 budget discussions.

Warden Murray Fearrey said later he personally supports the HHOA funding request based on the "tremendous amount of work" the group has done and the tourism value fishing holds for the county, and thinks now that an end date is in sight the rest of council is likely support it as well.

Kennisis trail upgraded for smoother ride

By Matthew Desrosiers

Thanks to fundraising efforts and work from Kennisis Lake residents and cottagers, Trail 62 from the lake to Dorset will be new and improved when snowmobiling season starts up this winter.

Graham Beach helped raise \$2,540 through 40 families this year and has given the money to the Tall Pines Snowmobiling Club (TPSC) out of Dorset for improvements to the trail.

"The Tall Pine executive was really keen on getting more involved," he said. "It was a pretty rough trail, pretty windy. So any improvement to make it better... you can groom it earlier in the year and need less snow to make it accessible."

Work on the trail is wrapping up this week, he said. They have had moderate-sized machinery on the trail to widen it in places and smooth it out. For wet areas on the trail, workers have laid down logs.

Beach said this trail couldn't be used until mid-January sometimes because there wasn't enough snow. With the work that's been completed, the trail should open much sooner in the season. Also of concern was how rough the trail was.

"A lot of the trails are just strictly snowmobile trails and only get used in the winter time," he said. "You don't really know how bad they are until you drive them in the an ATV in the summer and they're really, really rough."

Trail 62 is between six and seven kilometres long and is used primarily as a secondary trail. Most snowmobilers run the lakes to get from Kennisis to Dorset, but those who use the trail will notice a difference, he said.

The money was raised through events earlier in the year. "I organized a barbeque in late February last year and we had it on the ice. [I] put the word out and raised money that way."

Apart from financial donations, local businesses pitched in where they could as well.

Larry Hewitt, owner of Hawk River Construction, volunteered to help on the trail. Gary Bouwmeister of Bouwmeister Landscaping Ltd. also donated three or four days of machinery and an operator on the trail, Beach said.

All the volunteers were Kennisis Lake residents. Now that the major work has been completed, the trail has a solid base for grooming.

"The trail base will be good for a number of years."

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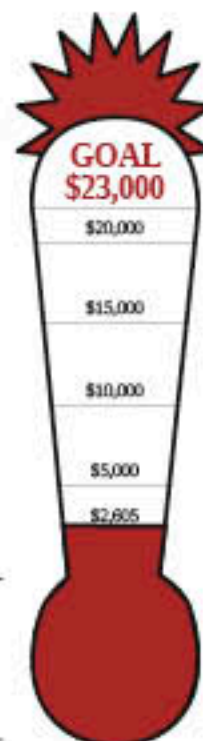
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Highlander outdoors

THE TROPHY WALL



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Gelert, November 2012



Keith Cunningham
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Highlander technology



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The Computer Guy Name game



By David Spaxman

So the new rumour floating around the web is that Microsoft will be dumping the word "Windows" when they release their next operating system. The reason being is that their new software will not only work for PCs, laptops, tablets and phones but will be integrated into the Xbox console. It just makes sense to retire this label.

The word "Windows" also has a long history. In 1982 Microsoft came out with a new operating system. "Interface Manager" is the code name and was considered as the final name, but "Windows" prevails because it best describes the boxes or computing windows that are fundamental to the new system. Windows is announced in 1983, but it takes a while to develop. Skeptics call it "vaporware."

On Nov. 20, 1985, two years after the initial announcement, Microsoft ships Windows 1.0. Now, rather than typing MS-DOS commands, you just move a mouse to point and click your way through screens, or windows. Bill Gates says "It is unique software designed for the serious PC user..."

On Dec. 9, 1987, Microsoft releases Windows 2.0 with desktop icons and expanded memory. With improved graphics support, you can now overlap windows, control the screen layout, and use keyboard shortcuts to speed up your work. Some software developers write their first Windows-based programs for this release.

On May 22, 1990, Microsoft announces

Windows 3.0, followed shortly by Windows 3.1 in 1992 and the software begins to take shape leading up to what we experience now.

But not all Windows were a success and Microsoft feels it's time to abandon the moniker and move on.

So I thought let's have a contest! I want everyone to put their thinking caps on and e-mail me a new name for the next Microsoft operating system. Since this is the season of giving, for the best submission, I'll give away a brand new HP Photosmart printer. You can print photos from your camera or ones you have stored on the computer, flash drive, etc.

Send your ideas to computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca by Dec. 18, 2012, and I'll announce the best one in my Dec. 20 column. The entries will be looked over by a panel of judges, (actually just me and some of my friends hanging out at the Rockcliffe Tavern), and we'll pick the best one based on originality. Enter as many times as you want and don't forget your name.

I would also like to thank all the people who have used The Computer Guy for your computer needs in the first year of my business. Thank you!

For questions or comments, e-mail me at computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca. Happy and safe computing!

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Highlander sports



Curlers sweep into Minden for bonspiel

By Warren Riley

The Dollo Master Men's Invitational Bonspiel was held at the Minden Curling Club on Nov 27.

According to Jim Gillanders this was the ninth year for the Dollo Bonspiel in Minden.

"We have teams that travel and will play in Haliburton, Bancroft, Lindsay, Huntsville and other cities," he said.

Gillanders is proud of his involvement in the curling club.

"You can be 60 [years of age] or older for this invitational but we also have a good junior program and it's run after hours," he said. "I think we have about 30-odd kids in that

program. Last year we hosted a curling event for little ones that was sponsored by Tim Bites. It was run between the curling rink and the arena next door [S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena]."

Winner of the first draw was a team from the Minden Curling Club skipped by Ted Wilkes with Dave McKay, Mike Clewlow and Cec Ryall.

Winner of the second draw was also a Minden team and was skipped by Bruce Fisher with Paul Prentice, Ed Copeland and Ron Reid. This team was the overall winner and recipients of the Dollo Trophy.



Photos by Warren Riley

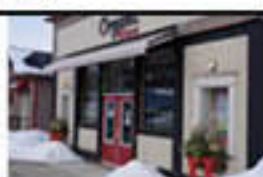
Top: Two finished ends at the Dollo Master Bonspiel.
Above: Sweeping a stone into the house.



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Highlander sports



Lightning strikes twice

Submitted by Rick Ashall

The Haliburton Curling Club hosted our annual theme mixed bonspiel Nov. 16 and 17. The theme for this year's bonspiel was based on sports teams from the Wide World of Sports. Each team had to dress in outfits depicting their sport.

In this year's bonspiel, two teams had what is referred to in curling as an eight-ender.

An eight-ender is a perfect score in a single end of curling. In an end, both sides throw eight rocks, and in an eight-ender all rocks from one team score points. Eight-enders are extremely rare in competitive curling and are similar to a perfect game in baseball. Eight-enders are rarer than a hole-in-one in golf.

The probability of not one, but two eight-enders in the same bonspiel, on the same day, is unheard of. Lightning does strike twice.

The two eight-enders were scored at the Haliburton Curling Club's Mixed Theme Bonspiel on Nov. 17. The two teams were: Brian Murison's team from Haliburton, which scored the first eight-ender. The team consisted of Murison as skip, Doug Wagg as vice, Beryl Rasmus as second and Marilyn Wagg as lead.

Dave Moss's team, also from Haliburton, scored the second eight-ender. The team consisted of Moss as skip, Jane Johnston as vice, Dave Harris as second and Cathy Moss as lead.

Congratulations to the two teams and as Ripley would say, "Believe it or not!"

Photos submitted by Rick Ashall

Above: Brian Murison's team, including Doug Wagg, Beryl Rasmus and Marilyn Wagg.
Top right: Dave Moss's team, including Jane Johnston, Dave Harris and Cathy Moss.

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Highlander sports

Quest for the perfect ski hill blasts off

By Warren Riley

The white stuff has finally arrived and preparations for another season of downhill skiing are underway at Haliburton's Sir Sam's Ski Resort.

Since 1965, Sir Sam's has offered thousands of skiing enthusiasts the opportunity to indulge in their favourite winter activity. The only fly in the ointment is whether Mother Nature will cooperate. Below freezing temperatures and a natural snow base would make for a perfect environment but sometimes that just doesn't happen.

According to Chris Bishop, manager of Sir Sam's, the resort will open on schedule this weekend, Dec. 8 and 9, with an ample snow base.

"In a winter season we always have a start, middle and a finish," he said. "The start is making snow and Christmas. Mid-season is January February and the end is March. We always have a weather interruption [a thaw] usually in mid-season. Last year the first and second week of March saw temperatures in the mid-seventies in Haliburton. Toronto had bathers on the beach and Lindsay had

golfers."

For any ski resort to be successful, the art of snow making is a prerequisite. On several occasions, the weather and opening dates didn't cooperate for Bishop.

"I can remember periods when we had no snow and periods when it was really cold. There were periods when we had rain. It was green and didn't open before Christmas. We just couldn't make snow. Definitely things [climate] have changed but overall, the average winter temperature here in Haliburton really hasn't changed all that much."

Sir Sam's has the advantage of creating artificial snow by forcing water and pressurized air through a 'snow gun'. The key considerations in snow production are increasing water and energy efficiency while increasing the environmental window in which snow can be made. When the wind cooperates, guns are pointed in the opposite direction allowing the fine mist to instantly freeze and float to the ground covering the desired area.

Safety concerns at Sir Sam's are paramount for Bishop. He requires a full-time certified

mechanic during the winter season. Each year every piece of equipment from bearings and rails to carriages and machinery goes through a myriad of rigorous inspections exceeding the Ontario TSSA (Technical Standards and Safety Authority) standards.

"We look at elevators, all lifts and chains, right down to taking images of our cables to make sure there are no breakages in the individual strands. Anything that's technical. Everything has to be authorized. If a part on a lift needs replacing we shut the lift down and either repair it or order a new part."

During the pre-season Bishop's focus is on sales and marketing.

"I put all the promotions together, contacting the schools, organizing the snow lesson programs and pre-sell our season passes at our open house at a discount. This encourages people to buy early."

A feature new to Sir Sam's and a first in Canada is the unique 'Surface Lift'. It is 1,100 feet long in two stages and will transport new skiers and snowboarders to the top of the hill in a comfortable music-filled tunnel.



Photo submitted by Chris Bishop

The snow machines continue to pump powder at Sir Sam's for the upcoming season which opens this weekend.

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF HALIBURTON

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Act; and
IN THE MATTER OF a proposed by-law of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton to convey to the adjoining landowner, an inaccessible portion of property, situated in part of Lot 4 Concession 1, within the Geographic Township of Minden, in the Municipality of Minden Hills.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 34(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the Administration Building on Newcastle Street, in the Village of Minden, Ontario, on January 23, 2012, a by-law to convey a parcel of land described as follows:

Portion of inaccessible lands, situated in Part of Lot 4, Concession 1 in the Geographic Township of Minden, in the Municipality of Minden Hills designated as Part No. 1, as shown on Plan 19R1121 registered AUGUST 10, 1976.

The plan of survey is available for inspection at the Roads Department Office, 3 St. Germaine St., Minden, Ontario during office business hours. (8:30 am. to 4:30 pm., Monday to Friday)

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-law at its meeting to be held as noted above, the Council of the County of Haliburton shall then and there hear in person, or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard.

DATED at Minden, this 30th day of November, 2012.

Enquiries may be directed to:

Angela Horner, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (705) 286-1762
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Highlander sports

Choosing the right gear

By Warren Riley

Whatever happened to the terms 'proper size' or 'correct fit'? We seem to have ignored the insufferable pain our body went through while growing up.

Our parents paid for a pair of skates or skis and we had to make them last for many seasons. Those were the rules. Over several years of use, our feet became blistered and our ankles red and sore. Not the least was the fact we smiled all the while trying to look and act comfortable.

Times have changed and so have skis, skates, boots and most winter accessories. This is where a professional is needed to help us make the right choice.

Store manager Kevin Sicard of Sharpley Source for Sports in Haliburton has been in sports retail for years and explains how new and innovative products have revolutionized the industry.

"Most times you can tell when to approach a customer by their body language," said Sicard. "If they are looking at a specific product they usually have questions about it."

"Take winter skiing for example. Skis have been the same for a long time and in the last few years the technology has changed a lot. From camber to reverse camber they [manufacturers] are trying to make the sport easier and more forgiving. That's the idea behind the latest technology."

Sicard says the first thing he does is ask who the skis are for and where they intend on skiing.

"Then we do a profile as to where they are going to ski, what their abilities are and whether they are a good skier because we want them to go out and have a good time."

All these things come into play when choosing the right equipment.

"There are skis for the beginner, intermediate and the professional," Sicard

said. "If they were going to ski in deep powder then that makes a big difference and the skier would need a little more floatation. Here in Haliburton, you would need a shorter ski which is better. Skis used to be over your head [in length] but now you can do the same thing with a shorter ski."

When it comes to Haliburton, skiing isn't the only winter sport you need to be prepared for. Sicard described what should be considered by individuals wishing to skate for the first time.

"I would find out what you were going to do with skates. If you were going to pond or lake skate, we would recommend what we call a 'pond skate'. They are very inexpensive and will do the job for you."

Ankle development is an important factor for first-time skaters and Sicard takes this aspect seriously.

"If you go into a good skate too soon, your ankles are not going to develop. If you let the skate do all the work, then how are you going to get up on your own? You have to factor all that into it because it's important."

Sicard explained how far advanced new technology has become.

"Skates now are 'heat-mouldable'," he said. "Originally, it would take years for skates to fit your feet naturally. Now, we have an oven that we put the skates in and after two to five minutes, the skates will fit on your feet like gloves. The process makes the skate material soft and once we put them on your foot we tighten them up and they take the shape of your foot. When the material hardens, it stays that shape on the inside and outside of the skate."

"We don't normally do this process for pond skates as they are not designed that way."

For more information on choosing the right equipment for you, consult your local sports equipment experts.



Photo by Warren Riley

Sharpley Manager Kevin Sicard helps Sarah Atkinson make the right choice in snowshoes.

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Highlander sports

Storm results

Fundraiser a success

Submitted by Dan Marsden

On behalf of the entire Minden Car Quest/Canadian Tire Midget 'BB' Storm girls' coaching staff, players and the parents of the Highland Storm team, we would like to send a huge thank you out to all of the people who came out and supported us with our "All-you-can-eat" spaghetti fundraiser this past Wednesday night (Nov. 28). It was a great success with lots of great food, prizes, and a tremendous show of support for the girls.

We would also like to take this time to say thanks to Sue and Ed, and the staff of That Place in Carnarvon, as they were the great hosts of this event. We truly appreciate the support that was shown by our community.

The Storm girls dropped both games this weekend; being defeated by Leaside Friday night in Minden and then by Kingston Saturday night on the road.

Peewee Storm win again

Submitted by Jon Petrie

Smolen Dentistry's Highland Storm continued their tournament dominance by winning the Campbellford Tournament this past Saturday.

The boys played with style throughout the day, sharing the puck well, keeping their cool when tested and illustrating a quiet determination that never faltered. They cruised through the first two games; the first against the Durham Crusaders.

Kyle Cooper got things started quickly with two early goals on nice feeds by Devyn Prentice and Owen Smith. More goals quickly followed. Prentice scored on a scramble in front and Alex Petrie on an in-tight one-timer from Smith behind the net. Josh Boice then tallied two in quick succession and Ben Schmidt finished things off for a 7-0 final.

The boys continued to roll through the second game, facing the Orono Leafs.

The game started at a better pace and goalie Josh Bellefleur was tested early. The Storm adapted though and soon took control. Ben Schmidt scored first and Smitty followed on a beautiful feed from Nik Dollo at the side boards. Schmidt and Smith would finish with a hat trick each and Prentice put the finishing touch on a 7-1 victory with a goal in the final minute.

The final was a fairly chippy affair at times, and Stirling attempted some different plays that forced our boys to adapt quickly. Our defensive unit of Shawn Walker, Jacob Haedicke, Ryan Prentice and Carter O'Neill stood strong though, nullifying their strategy and a strong forecheck quickly put Stirling on the defensive. Cooper's two goals in the first period were all we needed take the 2-0 win and tourney victory.

Silver Stick eludes Storm

Submitted by Trish Phippen

The Highland Storm Novices travelled to Cobourg for game one of the Silver Stick Tournament against the Ennismore Eagles on Nov. 30.

Things looked good for the Storm early with a goal 17 seconds into the game by Nick Phippen assisted by Gage Hutchinson. After a hard-played game and brilliant goaltending by Damon Harriss the Storm eventually lost the game as Ennismore scored with three minutes to play in the third, ending the game 2-1.

The next morning, hard work and hustle didn't pay off as we got shut out by the Cumberland Grads Blue in game two of the tournament.

Our only hope of moving on was a big win against the Petawawa Patriots that afternoon. Harriss' outstanding goaltending and gritty determination from all players took a 0-0 draw deep into the third. It wasn't enough as Petawawa eventually won 3-1. This loss ended the tournament.

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FOR SALE

1 OR 2 PERSON FISH HUT with skis, fiberglass roof, plywood walls, storage, sm insulation, towable. \$465.00 OBO. Call 705-457-5061. (DE6)

325 HP 350 ENGINE & 1979 Camper Special, \$1,500. Call 705-447-2037. (DE6)

1995 DODGE PICK UP 2500 series. Extended cab, 8' box, 2 wheel drive. Goose neck hitch, certified for horse hauling. \$3,000, will certify. 705-754-3359, 613-438-3062. (DE6)

7.5 HP COMPRESSOR, 3 cyl. vertical, nearly new, \$600. 25 CFM at 100 PSI, 80 gallons. 705-754-3359, 613-438-3062. (DE6)

FORD COMPACT DIESEL 4WD, Kabota-size tractor. PTO 5ft Meteor snow blower and industrial bucket. \$6,500 or add landscape trailer for \$1,000. 705-457-1307. (DE6)

HORIZON TREADMILL with incline, was \$1,500. Great Christmas present, like new. Can deliver, will hold for Christmas with deposit. \$400. 705-457-1307. (DE6)

WANTED

RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED – Quiet, mature, responsible professional seeking year-round accommodations in Haliburton County effective May 1, 2013. Preferably on or near water, but not a necessity. Furnished, unfurnished or partly furnished. Non-smoker, no pets. Respectful of nature and the property of others. (DE6)

LOST AND FOUND

KIT IS LOST! Friday, Sep. 14, treasured family pet, 9-year old Manx cat, predominantly white with grey and black patches, short bob tail. Lost at Haliburton Veterinary Clinic on Peninsula Drive. Reward – Call 705-447-2266. (TFN)

LOST – BLACK CAT, lost on the night of Thursday, Sep 6 at Hunter Creek Estates (could have travelled). Very friendly, answers to Slater. He is on a special urinary diet. Please call Sonya at 705-286-6379, reward offered. (TFN)

LOST GOLD WEDDING BAND with anchor, dollar sign, 18k and crown insignia on the inside. Reward for return. (TFN)

LOST AND FOUND

IPOD FOUND IN HALIBURTON VILLAGE. Call 705-457-9950. (NOV29)

THANK YOU

Thank you
The family of Aileen Tosh would like to thank the nurses and Doctor "K", at the Haliburton Highlands Health Services hospital, for the care, kindness and support given to Aileen. We would also like to say to all of Aileen's friends, especially her line dancing group, how much their friendship meant to Aileen and her family.

HELP WANTED

MINDEN HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE seeking someone to work shipping/receiving/stockroom. Drop off resume to Manager. (TFN)

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Salesperson Needed for Closing

We already close 13% of our qualified leads automatically online. Now we're looking for a superstar salesperson to send that ratio skyrocketing.

The opportunity: Earn up to \$4,000 or more per month on a commission-only basis, working part time from home, closing qualified leads for our online marketing tools.

No cold-calling. We'll supply a steady stream of opt-in hot qualified leads, some with phone numbers, some with email addresses only. You will also get the incoming calls from sales leads. You'll work out of your home office with prospects across North America.

About you:

- You have proven experience closing hot leads by phone and email.
- Knowledge of the real estate and insurance industries is a big plus, but experience with professionals and small-business owners is also helpful.
- If you know email marketing, print marketing and social media that's another bonus.
- You can demonstrate an impressive closing ratio in a B2B environment.
- You want to work from home.

How to apply: Please email your resume and a cover letter that explains why you are right for this job to support@readytogonewsletters.com with the subject line: Salesperson



Call Ashley with your classified ad
705-457-2900
Our classifieds work!

Highlander events

DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
The Rose Campaign, working to end violence against women – St. Paul's Anglican Church, 11:00 a.m. Light refreshments will be served.	Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941. Mini-Buck Euchre – Bobcaygeon Senior Citizens Center, 7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Christmas Sale – Minden Branch, 10: a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Sunday School Children's Service – Haliburton United Church, 11:15 a.m.
6	7	8	9
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	
 10	 11	 12	Shout Sister Choir is looking for new members. Practices are Thursday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Haliburton United Church www.shoutsisterchoir.ca
FRIDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	
The Highland Concert Band's 3rd annual Christmas Concert – St. George's Anglican Church, 7:30 p.m. Admission is by donation with all proceeds going to local food banks.	Cantata: More than a Manger – Haliburton United Church, 11:15 a.m. Santa Claus Parade – Starting at Wilberforce P.S., 12:00 p.m. Gift wrapping fundraiser - Haliburton Dance Academy (41 Maple Avenue), 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Contract Bridge - (every Monday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941 Highlands Little Theatre AGM – Dysart Library, 7:30 p.m.	
14	16	17	
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	
100.9 Caneel M Dingo - (every Tuesday) @ 6 p.m., 705-457-1009 Wii Bowling (every Tuesday) - Community Care @ 9:00 a.m., 705-457-2941	Community Drum Circle - (every Wednesday) - Rails End Gallery @ 8:30 p.m., 705-457-2330	Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941	
18	19	21	

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION?

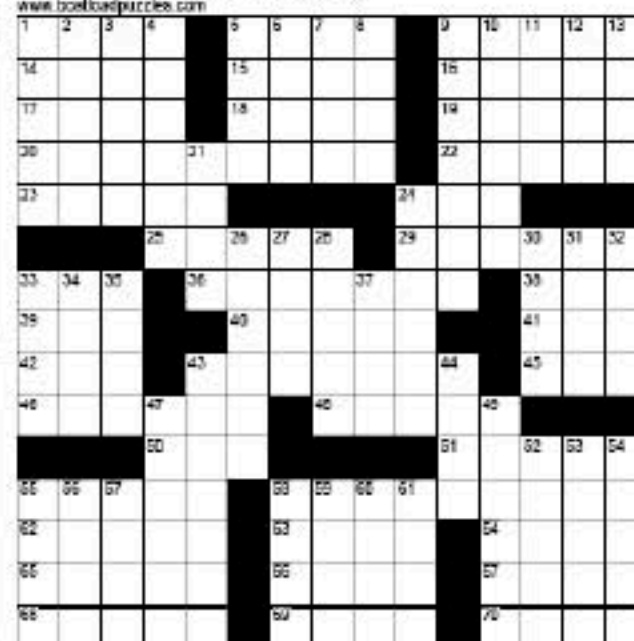
Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571) Bid Euchre, every Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. Bingo, every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.	Radio Club, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Fish & Chips, every Friday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Darts, every Friday, 7:30 p.m. NFL on the big screen, every Sunday (food available), 12:00 p.m.	Bid Euchre, Monday, 7:00 p.m. Darts, every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Ham and scalloped dinner, Friday, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. L.A. Breakfast, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. New Year's Dance Monday, December 31st - Lloyd Watson Centre, 9:00pm to close. Buffet served at 11:00 p.m. (included in ticket price) Tickets available at Branch 624 (Wilberforce) - \$20.00 per person.
Minden Branch (705-286-4541) Lunch menu, every Monday to Friday from noon - 2:00 p.m. Bid Euchre, every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. Meat Draw, every Wednesday, lunchtime Ladies Darts, every Thursday, 1:00 p.m. Euchre, every Thursday, 7:30 p.m.	Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221) Pool, every Friday, 1:30 p.m. Jam Session, every Friday, 7:00 p.m. Meat Draw, every Saturday, 2:00 p.m.	

2				7		4	
		5			2		3
	8		2		1	9	
	5		3			6	7
			4		6		
6	2			8		5	
	7	4		3		8	
3		8			5		
	9		6				4

Send your
community event to
[ashley@
haliburtonhighlander.ca](mailto:ashley@haliburtonhighlander.ca)

9	4	2	5	3	8	6	7	1
3	7	8	1	4	6	9	5	2
6	1	5	2	7	9	3	4	8
5	6	9	8	2	4	7	1	3
2	3	1	7	6	5	4	8	9
4	8	7	9	1	3	2	6	5
1	9	4	3	5	7	8	2	6
8	5	6	4	9	2	1	3	7
7	2	3	6	8	1	5	9	4

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ACROSS

- Blemish
- Exam type
- Eight musicians
- Delai _____
- Mall event
- Animated
- Top cards
- Big cat
- Fork features
- Cited
- Intended
- Curved letters
- Poetic dusk
- Bread portion
- Baby's toy
- President before JFK
- Unending
- Not cooked
- Singer _____ Stewart
- Goodbye (Sp.)
- Adam's companion
- Orange drink
- Chose
- Com spike
- Dreadful shrub
- Hebrew feast
- Circle part
- Chinese "bear"
- Soil
- Party after a wedding
- Bride's walkway
- Like sore muscles
- Youth
- Previous
- "Of _____ I Sing"
- Land unit
- Chars
- Piglets' mothers
- Loch _____

DOWN

- Hold responsible
- Shoe fasteners
- Foretelling signs
- Sips
- Norwegian city
- Drizzle
- African lily
- Give temporarily
- Porridge
- Customer
- Songstress _____ Turner
- Divisible by two
- _____ the waters
- Man or Wight
- Deleted
- Slanting type
- Give up
- Clapton and Roberts
- Fir or poplar
- Volcanic emission
- Water pitcher
- Unexciting
- Extinct bird
- First garden
- Jot down
- Murky makers
- Johnny _____ of "Edward Scissorhands"
- Popeye, e.g.
- Wicker material
- Female relative
- Achievers
- Rice and Frank
- Undermines
- Become weary
- China's continent
- Pied Piper followers
- Canyon feedback
- Enjoy gum
- Spud buds

OWLS	BLOB	COLOR
KEEN	LOPE	ARENA
RENO	AREA	NASTY
ADORNMENT	ALTOS	
	TIE	LAS
CLASP	SPECTATOR	
RUN	STIR	HAIRDO
INKS	ABODE	DUDES
SALAMI	NASA	CEE
PRETENDED	BEERS	
	ATE	SEA
ASDEN	PENETRATE	
RHODE	ALOE	TRAY
TIRES	RSVP	HIRE
SPENT	TEAS	SAPS

Highlander events

Pond hockey shoots into Highlands

By Lisa Harrison

Pond hockey joys – pucks disappearing into snowbanks, cracked pond ice after a full day of play – Warden Murray Fearrey remembers them well.

So Fearrey, backed by John Teljeur of JT's Food Crusade, is bringing the 2013 Canadian National Pond Hockey Championships to Haliburton County.

The championships will run from Jan. 27 to 31 and February 1 to 3.

Teljeur, a former championships participant, knows well how much fun the players have. His team created the People's Republic of Drinkbeeria, complete with a "national" accent and flag, and after a few years members were being asked to sign their shirts for bars and homes.

But economic benefit is the main reason both men want to bring in the games.

The championships draw up to 800 players and Masters players especially bring their families. Fearrey says players spend up to \$500 each and Teljeur says \$500,000 annually is a conservative estimate.

"You don't see these kinds of things coming up every day, to have something that you can basically turn around in a couple of weeks that could possibly affect your economy within two months, three months," says Teljeur.

Pinestone Resort will hold event-day registration, host the Saturday night Pond Party and provide discounted accommodations. Haliburton Tourism is working with other county accommodators to ensure sufficient beds. Teljeur says tourism packages will be developed to help entice return visits.

The games will be played on Pinestone's pond and on Head Lake in Haliburton.

Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville was home base for the past seven years. The games' main originator, Neil Lumsden of J-Core Marketing, says Deerhurst hosted well but wanted to reduce its support this year, so the games went looking for a new home.

Teljeur says he tried to bring in the event seven years ago but Deerhurst was the high bidder. When he heard the games were available for 2013, he immediately contacted Lumsden and Fearrey to get the county's puck sliding again.

Fearrey acknowledges the county has only had three months to prepare instead of 12.

"[Also] building 26 or 28 rinks is going to be a challenge because we haven't done that before, but they [J-Core] are offering expertise."

Teljeur says the biggest need is to get volunteers involved



Photo by Lisa Harrison

Pinestone Resort will serve as headquarters for the 2013 Canadian National Pond Hockey Championships.

while respecting the needs of the two tournaments scheduled those weekends – the Haliburton County Home Builders Association's 15th Annual Hockey Tournament for county food banks, and the 5th Annual Scotty Morrison Charity Hockey Tournament.

"We're not in any way, shape or form trying to compete with them," says Teljeur. "In fact we're trying to make this whole thing work together so that it's a hockey mecca weekend. My pitch to them was, 'Help us help you make this weekend work for everybody'. In 2014, if we get that far, and it looks like we're on the way, maybe a lot more of our things can be combined."

County council voted Nov. 28 to provide \$10,000 and the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) will provide another \$10,000 from its federal Community Capacity Building Fund toward meals, ice maintenance and organizational costs.

"It's something I think John Teljeur deserves some credit for tracking down and trying to bring the initiative to the county, and kudos to the county for getting behind it," says Andy Campbell, HCDC general manager. "We're pleased to be a part of it."

Player registration for last year's teams closes Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. The event will be opened to the general public once returning player numbers have been confirmed.

To volunteer or to register as a returning player or on the new team wait list, visit www.canadapondhockey.ca.

HELP WANTED



Township of
Algonquin Highlands
requires a
CHIEF TRAINING OFFICER

The Township of Algonquin Highlands with a permanent population of 2,000 and a seasonal population exceeding 10,000 is known within Central Ontario as an area of natural beauty where residents enjoy a rural lifestyle second to none.

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from experienced, qualified persons for the position of Chief Training Officer.

Reporting to the Fire Chief, and working closely with three (3) District Chiefs, the Chief Training Officer will be responsible for the development, coordination, delivery and administration of training for approximately 50 volunteer firefighters across three stations within the Department.

The preferred candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- Must have or be pursuing Training Officer Certification from the Ontario Fire College.
- Must have or will achieve Associate Instructor status from the Ontario Fire College.
- Must have or will attain Trainer/Facilitator designation as recognized by the Office of the Fire Marshal.
- Fire Prevention Officer Certification is preferred.
- Demonstrated ability and experience working successfully in a volunteer firefighter environment and have sound judgment, leadership, and motivational skills.
- Extensive firefighting and training experience with a thorough knowledge of modern firefighting and public safety and fire prevention methods.
- Possess strong leadership and motivational skills, be resourceful and be in good physical condition.
- Must possess excellent computer skills. Must be proficient in Microsoft programs (including but not limited to Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Township-specific programs).
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

Salary Range: \$28.93 - \$32.56/hr for a 30 hour work week.

Applicants must indicate how they meet the minimum qualifications in their resume. We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Please submit your resume in confidence by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012 to:

John Hogg, Fire Chief
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, Ontario, K0M 1J1
705-766-0010
Email – jhogg@algonquinhighlands.ca
Visit our website for a detailed job description at
www.algonquinhighlands.ca

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Tickets available at Travel Plus in Haliburton, Whispers North in Minden and Pharmasave in Minden. \$30 a ticket!

Highlander travel

HELP WANTED



Township of
Algonquin Highlands
requires an
OPERATOR – Dorset Yard
(Full-time position)

The Township of Algonquin Highlands with a permanent population of 2,000 and a seasonal population exceeding 10,000 is known within Central Ontario as an area of natural beauty where residents enjoy a rural lifestyle second to none.

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from experienced, qualified persons for the position of Operator for the Dorset Yard.

Reporting to the Public Works Supervisor, the Operator will provide a variety of construction, snow/ice removal, maintenance and repair services to roads, bridges, culverts and drainage and other road work, parks, cemeteries, landfills and lagoons and public access points such as docks and landings.

The preferred candidate will be an energetic, cooperative, customer service oriented individual who takes pride in their work and must have demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and with a crew. Dependability is a must, as is the availability to work outside of regular hours including weekends and evenings.

The preferred candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- Solid understanding of public works construction and maintenance procedures.
- Good understanding of policy, procedures, by-laws, Ministry guidelines, regulations and legislation related to the operation of equipment and public works construction and maintenance.
- Valid class DZ license, AZ is preferred with a clean driver's abstract.

Salary Range : \$21.37 - \$24.05/hr based on a 40 hour work week.

Applicants must indicate how they meet the minimum qualifications in their resume. We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Please submit your resume in confidence by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012 to:

Mike Thomas, Operations Manager
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands, Ontario,
K0M 1J1 705-489-2379 Ext.225
Email – mthomas@algonquinhighlands.ca

Visit our website for a detailed job description at:
www.algonquinhighlands.ca

EVENTS

THOSE OTHER MOVIES

presents

The Intouchables

Inspiring story of a quadriplegic aristocrat and the young man hired to be his caregiver. (French w/ subtitles)



Thursday, Dec 13/12

The Northern Lights Pavilion in Haliburton Village

2 shows – 4:15 & 7:15
Tickets \$8.00 at the door

Coming next:
Jan 10/13: Still

Feb 14/13: To Rome with Love

More info: www.haliburton-movies.com

The lady traveller

Cruising the Danube – continued

I hope you enjoyed reading about our first week travelling from Bucharest to Budapest.

Cruise week two – Budapest to Nuremberg plus Prague

Now the riverside becomes more interesting with towns and villages to enjoy as you sail.

Most we visited were riverside so when we docked we walked off and into town.

Our next stop was Vienna Austria, a city of music and culture with more beautiful buildings, amazing shops and restaurants and ABC (another beautiful church!). It's an amazing city but it was raining hard so our sightseeing was limited. We did spend an hour in the Spanish Riding School watching them train the beautiful Lipizzaner stallions.

Next stop was Durnstein Austria. We visited the ruins of the castle where King Richard the Lionheart, King of England, was imprisoned in 1192. From there we sailed through the Wachau Valley to Melk and the Benedictine Abbey, one of the largest in Europe.

One of my favourite stops was a little medieval town that time forgot called Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic. It was one of the optional excursions and well worth the extra money. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site, with the castle and town buildings so beautifully preserved.

Next we sailed through the Danube Gorge with the most amazing scenery. This took us to Weltenburg Abbey known for brewing one of the oldest dark beers in Europe. We got to enjoy a glass along with a freshly baked pretzel. Beer in Europe is so different from what we experience here. I could even develop a taste for it!

Back in Bavaria we visited Regensburg, one of Germany's best preserved medieval towns with ABC! Here you will find Germany's oldest restaurant from the 12th century specializing in, what else but, sausages. They were so tasty!

Our next day was sailing the Main-Danube Canal. This amazing engineering feat joined two major rivers and created a 2,200 mile waterway linking the North Sea and the Black Sea. Parts of it are higher than the surrounding

land and even create a bridge over a highway. It crosses over the watershed that determines whether the European rivers flow East or West. Its evolution involved both Charlemagne in the 8th century and Napoleon, right up to 1992 when it was finally finished. It takes 16 locks to raise and lower shipping vessels a total elevation difference of about 400 ft.

Nuremberg was our final port city. Much of it has been rebuilt as 75 per cent was destroyed by Allied bombing. There are still beautiful old sections to see including the Market Square which holds one of the most beautiful Christmas markets in Europe. Most recognize it for the trial of Nazi war criminals. I loved it for the best ginger bread anywhere and their Nuremberger sausage! Our cruise ended here.

Now we transferred by bus to Prague in the Czech Republic for three nights. Known as the city of 100 towers, it truly is one of Europe's great destinations. Our hotel, Intercontinental, was in a great location with a view of the Moldau River and within walking distance of the famous Charles Bridge, the Old Town and the Main Square with the Astrological Clock. We did two different city tours to ensure we saw all the major sites. All the buildings were beautiful no matter what their purpose. We walked a street that rivalled Rodeo Dr and another in the Jewish Quarter that took you back to a very dark time in history. The Palace and the Castle were beautifully preserved. ABCs everywhere you looked. The food was amazing and we found prices reasonable to eat out and shop. Best buys were garnets, hand painted eggs and porcelain. It truly is a destination in itself.

It was an amazing trip and just reinforced my love of river cruising.

What do you want to hear about? Let's talk! I invite your comments and questions.

Carolyn Pawson
The Lady Traveller
ladytraveller@haliburtonhighlander.ca



By Carolyn Pawson

OBITUARIES



Ethel Marguerite Clarke (nee Evans)

Passed away suddenly at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Sunday, December 2, 2012. At the age of 85.

Beloved wife of the late Harvey Martin Clarke (February 5, 2012). Much loved mother of Kevin (Anne) (both deceased), Janet (Randy), Greg (Kerry), Murray "Mic" (Donna), Sharon (Mike). Loving grandma of Matthew, Taryn (Gordon), Daniel (Victoria), Leanne, Kelsey (Nick), Andrew (Skye), Stuart (Emily), Lindsay (Michael). Lovingly remembered by her best friend Reta and her husband Bob Allen.

A gathering will be held for the immediate family members. Cremation has taken place.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the "Community Kitchen" at SIRCH Community Services would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged locally through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Gordon A. Monk
Funeral Home Ltd.
111 Woodbine Ave., Unit 427
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
www.gordonamonkfuneralhome.com

NEWS TIPS

Heard something that you think
might be news?

Give us a call

705-457-2900 or e-mail

matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Highlander food

Food for Thought Dinner for a winter evening

By Will Jones

This month's recipe is provided by Allison Roberts, the newly appointed kitchen manager at Abbey Gardens. A qualified chef, Allison will be bringing her skills to bear in the new retail and catering outlet that the organization is completing on Highway 118 between West Guilford and Carnarvon.

When it opens in the spring, the new store will offer fresh produce and products made by Allison at Abbey Gardens, plus a range of tasty treats from producers around the county.

Choosing beef and game pie, Allison says she has chosen this recipe because it is lovely and rich: "It will really stick to your ribs and help you use up all that moose or venison."

Beef and game pie

¼ cup of butter
2 medium onions - chopped
1½lbs of stewing beef, deer and moose - cut into one-and-a-half-inch cubes
½ cup of all-purpose flour seasoned with 1 tsp salt and 1 tsp pepper
Cooking oil
¾ cup stout (like Guinness or Mill St) or red wine if you prefer
1¼ cup of beef stock
One bouquet garni - springs of rosemary, thyme etc tied together with butchers twine
2 cups of sliced cremini or button mushrooms
½ a pack of puff pastry, kept frozen until a few hours before baking

Melt the butter on medium heat in a deep heavy-bottomed pot, add the onions and cook until translucent and slightly brown. Remove onions from pot and put aside.

Roll the meat in the seasoned flour and knock off excess flour. Turn up the heat on the pot to medium high and add cooking oil. Add the meat in small batches and brown on each side, then put aside.

Drain off any excess oil and return the pot to the heat. Add the onions, meat and stout and bring to a boil for one minute. Combine the beef stock and bouquet garni. Add salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil for another minute. Take down to a simmer and cook for 1.5 hrs. Add the mushrooms and cook for another 1.5 hrs or until the meat is extremely tender.

Adjust the seasoning to taste, remove the bouquet garni and let cool. If you let it cool overnight in the fridge the flavors will develop more.

The next day (or when cool) remove the pie filling from fridge before you start rolling out your pastry. The pie pan or casserole dish you plan to use should be big enough to hold at least five cups of filling. Roll out your pastry ¼ inch thick and a little larger than your pan.

When you put your pastry over top of your filled pie dish and trim off the edges cut a few holes in the pastry for the steam to escape. Mix together an egg and water and brush on top, then pop the pie in the oven and bake at 425 degrees until the pastry is cooked and golden brown.



By Matthew Desrosiers

Food banks fill gaps on their shelves

The county's food banks are thankful this season to John Teljeur, the 4Cs, Haliburton Foodland and the Rotary Club of Haliburton for their continued support.

Despite recent donations to the food banks, there are still some gaps on the shelves. Their wishlist was passed on to the 4Cs, who placed a large order to the Foodland in Haliburton.

The Rotary Club of Haliburton then donated \$1,000 to cover the tab.

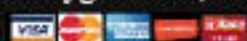
The food was picked up at Foodland on Dec. 5.

From left: Brad park, Haliburton Foodland owner, Judy MacDuff, 4Cs director, Ted Brandon, Rotary Club of Haliburton, Barbara Walford-Davis, chair of the Minden Food Bank, Mark Dennys, Rotary club of Haliburton, Andrew Hodgson, president of the Rotary Club of Haliburton, Michele McTeague, Rotary Club of Haliburton, Ken Mott, Wilberforce Food Bank, George Kadoke, Rotary Club of Haliburton, and John Teljeur of JT's Food Crusade.

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PREBOXING
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SATURDAY DECEMBER 8
7:30 am to 5:00 pm

Merry Christmas
Check out our
Christmas
centre & our
kids toy section!



Highlander events

School talent hits the stage

By Jessica Mscio

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) held their annual Coffee House on Nov. 28.

Coffee houses are talent shows put on by the Student Activities Council (SAC) to entertain the students of HHSS.

"Anyone [students] can sign up, anyone is allowed going," says Luis Ferracuti, the person in charge of the Coffee House.

"Usually about twenty to thirty people show up. [The outcome] could always be better, there could always be more people [however] this

Coffee House was one of the better ones from the past few years, I think."

Yet student Courtney Loucks says there was a missed opportunity to improve the turnout.

"The Coffee House wasn't really advertised," she said. "There was no indication of who was playing in it."

However, fellow student Alex Kocot disagrees.

"It was pretty well broadcasted in the school," he said. "It was on the announcements and there were posters around the school and stuff. Considering what [the] school is capable of [the Coffee House] was awesome."

The Coffee House was held in the school cafeteria where snacks and drinks were provided by the SAC. Two bands performed and multiple solo students claimed the stage.

Kathleen Tedford, one of the evening's performers, says the Coffee House was "like an adrenalin high."

Kocot, who also performed, isn't new to the stage.

"I like performing and I love music. It's a chance to get my name out in the community."

During the Coffee House there were many different types of performances,

including comedy and musical among others. The consensus from students who did attend seems to be that the Coffee House wasn't bad. With or without great advertising and a large crowd, it all seems to be for a good cause.

"[All proceeds from the coffee house] fund money for SAC activities like dances," says Ferracuti.

George Charelebois wraps up the night by saying it's about more than just raising money.

"[These coffee houses are put on] because they're fun."

Like an adrenalin high.

Kathleen Tedford

Coffee House performer

Photo contest for new tourism website

By Lisa Harrison

The county's new tourism website is nearing completion and a new photo contest for the site will be launched shortly, councillor Carol Moffatt reported at the Nov. 28 council meeting.

She advised a contest to create a Highlands photo gallery will launch shortly via Facebook and Twitter, and that social media will enable instant tagging of the photos for categories such as seasons, one of many ways in which it will be a more efficient intake process than e-mail.

Moffatt said the website committee realizes many amateur photographers who might wish to submit photos may not be using social media.

"We're going to keep an eye on that and see if we're having a problem with either not receiving submissions or complaints that people can't submit because they're not on social media, [and] we can change that," she told council.

Moffatt said the contest will close Jan. 31 and the website is expected to be ready at the beginning of February.

Photos will be welcome even after the contest has closed to ensure that visuals on the new site are always current.

"The whole point of the new website is to promote lifestyle and experience," said Moffatt. "The photo contest will be the visual enhancement of that whole promise and then it will drive people back to the new website, which will be all fun and festive and very fresh."



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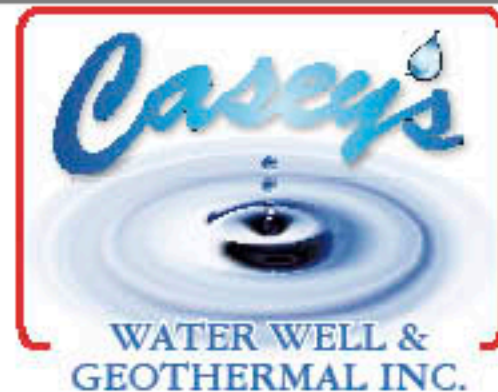
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Highlander events



Photos by Matthew Desrosiers and Walt Griffin

Top middle: Sydney Feir (left) serves Chris Little's all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Nov. 28. Top right: Kenndal Marsden prepares dessert for a patron. Right: Alex Little Sr. was the evening's big winner, taking home a signed Matt Duchene jersey and five tickets to the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Midget girls serve spaghetti

By Matthew Desrosiers

The Highland Storm Midget Girls 'BB' hockey team hosted an evening full of people, prizes and pasta on Nov. 28 at That Place in Camarvon to raise funds for the club.

The all-you-can-eat dinner was well-

attended by over 130 guests, who were eagerly waited upon by the Storm Girls.

Prizes included ski passes, gift cards, a popcorn popper, gift baskets and wine.

Alex Little Sr. was the big raffle winner, taking home a signed Matt Duchene jersey and five tickets to the Hockey Hall of Fame.





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